

Culture

Turkish-American Scholars to Address San Francisco Symposium

Alev Lytle Croutier is the featured speaker on April 28

The Turkish Times

Acclaimed Turkish-American novelist, screen writer, and historian Alev Lytle Croutier is the featured Friday night speaker for the program "Behind the Veil: The Islamic World in Western Art and Literature," at the Herbst Theater, San Francisco, Friday and Saturday, April 28/29. Ms. Croutier is particularly well known for her historical study, "Harem: The World Behind the Veil." She will be delivering a slide-illustrated lecture on images of the harem in 19th Century European painting and literature, contrasting the prosaic harem of her family in Izmir with the lush, fantasized portrayals by such artists as Ingres, Delacroix, Gerome and Flaubert. (Ms. Croutier's latest novel, "The Palace of Tears," will appear in bookstores in the fall.)

Following Ms. Croutier's lecture, Soprano Susan Lane Stokes and baritone Philip Skinner will offer a concert based on the program theme, including arias from Mozart's "Abduction from the Seraglio" and Rossini's "Maometto II" and "Il Turco in Italia."

In addition, on Saturday, April 29, respected Turkish-American architectural historian Zeynep Çelik will present a slide-illustrated lecture on the influence of Ottoman and North African traditions on Frank Lloyd Wright, Louis Sullivan, Le Corbusier, and other great architects. Among her numerous publications, Prof. Çelik is perhaps best known for "The Remaking of Istanbul: Portrait



of an Ottoman City in the Nineteenth Century," now available in paperback.

Other Saturday slide-illustrated lectures include Prof. Caroline Williams on European painters in Egypt; Prof. Gerald Ackerman 19th Century on American painters who traveled to the Ottoman empire for inspiration; and America's leading expert on Ottoman arts and crafts, Walter Denny, who will offer a broad historical perspective on the influence of the Islamic World on Western art. Prof. Denny, who is also the program moderator, spent several youthful

years as a student at Robert College.

The San Francisco-based cultural organization, Humanities West, which presented the program, "The Glory of the Ottoman Empire: Suleyman the Magnificent," in March 1993, is again the producer of "Behind the Veil."

Cost: Friday (8-10:15 PM) \$30.00; Saturday (10 AM-4 PM)

\$25.00; Friday/Saturday combined: \$50.00

For information and brochure, call Humanities West at (415) 391-9700; e-mail: humwest@worldnet.att.net. Tickets: City Box Office (415) 392-4400.